



State of New Hampshire  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

6 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095  
(603) 271-3406 FAX (603) 271-7894



October 21, 2002  
**Letter of Deficiency**  
DAM #132.02

Ms. Francine Ruskin  
262 Central Park West  
New York, NY 10024

RE: Gordon Pond Dam, Landaff

Dear Ms. Ruskin

The Department of Environmental Services, Dam Bureau (DES) consistently strives to enhance the safety of dams in New Hampshire through its dam safety program. One of the many instruments that play a part in reaching this goal is our inspection program. DES is forwarding this correspondence to you to advise you that in accordance with RSA 482:12 and Env-Wr 502.02, an inspection of the subject dam was conducted on July 12, 2002. During this visual inspection and/or file review, the following deficiencies were observed:

- There was brush growth along the entire dam crest, upstream face and downstream vertical stone facing of the dam;
- 2 There are tree limbs and brush, probably from beaver activity, within the spillway channel. The quantity of limbs and brush is severely impeding the discharge capacity of the spillway. Actual spillway dimensions could not be estimated due to the presence of the debris;
- 3 The water level was measured at 2 feet below the top of the dam;
- 4 There is no operable outlet control for the dam; and
- 5 The operation and maintenance plan (O&M) needs to be verified and updated

DES believes that the above deficiencies can be corrected by performing the following items by the indicated schedule:

**December 15, 2002:**

1. Remove the brush growth along the entire dam crest, upstream and downstream faces, and within a minimum of 10 feet from the toe of the downstream vertical stone facing;

Remove beaver debris from the spillway channel to restore the channel to unimpeded flow. Maintain a minimum of 3 feet of freeboard to safely discharge the 50-year storm flows until a permanent outlet control structure can be installed; and

- 3 Review and update the existing 1998 O&M plan. Refer to the enclosed guidelines.

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If you decide to modify the dam to incorporate a permanent water control structure in the sluiceway it is recommended that you seek the design services of a NH licensed professional engineer to develop a plan. This work will require a reconstruction permit from the NHDES Dam Bureau and a wetlands permit from the NHDES Wetlands Bureau.

DES is requesting that you complete and submit the attached "Intent to Complete Repairs" form, within 30 days of receipt of this letter, that will provide for correction of the identified deficiencies by the date(s) indicated above. If you believe changes to the items of work or dates are necessary, please make the changes directly on the form and provide a brief explanation. We have enclosed a self addressed stamped envelope for you to return this form.

Our intent in sending you this correspondence is to make you aware of items that DES believes warrant your attention to insure the continued safe operation of your dam. It is our hope that, through the submittal of the attached form and a commitment to keeping a well-maintained dam, you will voluntarily comply with the requested items of work. If we do not receive the intent form or a similarly adequate written reply, we will assume that you are in agreement with our findings and recommendations and DES will carry out follow-up inspections accordingly.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this Letter of Deficiency or would like to be present at future inspections, please contact me at 271-3406, or write to the Water Division at the address listed on the top of the previous page.

Sincerely,

**COPY**

Grace E. Levergood, P.E.  
Dam Safety Engineer

Attachments Guideline for an O&M plan & copy of existing 1998 plan, DB8, D13

cc: Richard Boulanger

Gretchen Rule ✓

Town of Landaff

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